

HOUSE BILL 179

By Matlock

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-9-603, relative to the use of safety belts.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-9-603(d), is amended by deleting the subsection in its entirety and substituting instead the following language:

(d)

(1) A violation of this section is a Class C misdemeanor. All proceeds from the fines imposed by this subsection (d), except as otherwise provided by subdivisions (d)(2) and (d)(3), shall be deposited in the state general fund and designated for the exclusive use of the division of vocational rehabilitation to assist eligible individuals with disabilities, as defined in § 49-11-602, who have been severely injured in motor vehicle accidents.

(2)

(A) A person charged with a violation of this section may, in lieu of appearance in court, submit a fine of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) for a first violation, and fifty dollars (\$50.00) for a second or subsequent violation to the clerk of the court that has jurisdiction of the offense within the county in which the offense charged is alleged to have been committed.

(B) The revenue generated by fifteen dollars (\$15.00) of the twenty-five-dollar fine in subdivision (d)(2)(A) for a person's first conviction shall be deposited in the state general fund without being designated for any specific purpose. The remaining ten dollars (\$10.00)

of the twenty-five-dollar fine for the person's first conviction under subdivision (d)(2)(A) shall be deposited in the state general fund and designated for the exclusive use of the division of vocational rehabilitation to assist eligible individuals with disabilities, as defined in § 49-11-602, who have been severely injured in motor vehicle accidents.

(C) The revenue generated by thirty dollars (\$30.00) of the fifty-dollar fine under subdivision (d)(2)(A) for a person's second or subsequent conviction shall be deposited in the state general fund without being designated for any specific purpose. The remaining twenty dollars (\$20.00) of the fifty-dollar fine for the person's second or subsequent conviction under subdivision (d)(2)(A) shall be deposited in the state general fund and designated for the exclusive use of the division of vocational rehabilitation to assist eligible individuals with disabilities, as defined in § 49-11-602, who have been severely injured in motor vehicle accidents.

(3)

(A) Notwithstanding subdivision (d)(2), a person charged with a violation of subsection (i) may, in lieu of appearance in court, submit a fine of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) to the clerk of the court that has jurisdiction of the offense within the county in which the offense charged is alleged to have been committed.

(B) Notwithstanding subdivision (d)(2), the revenue generated by fifteen dollars (\$15.00) of the twenty-five-dollar fine under subdivision (d)(3)(A) for a person's first conviction under subsection (i) shall be deposited in the state general fund without being designated for any specific purpose. The remaining ten dollars (\$10.00) of the twenty-five-dollar fine for the person's first conviction under subsection (i) shall be deposited in the state general fund and designated for the exclusive use

of the division of vocational rehabilitation to assist eligible individuals with disabilities, as defined in § 49-11-602, who have been severely injured in motor vehicle accidents.

(C) The revenue generated by five dollars (\$5.00) of the twenty-five-dollar fine under subdivision (d)(3)(A) for a person's second or subsequent conviction under subsection (i) shall be deposited in the state general fund without being designated for any specific purpose. The remaining twenty dollars (\$20.00) of the twenty-five-dollar fine for the person's second or subsequent conviction under subsection (i) shall be deposited in the state general fund and designated for the exclusive use of the division of vocational rehabilitation to assist eligible individuals with disabilities, as defined in § 49-11-602, who have been severely injured in motor vehicle accidents.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect January 1, 2016, the public welfare requiring it, and shall apply to offenses occurring on or after that date.